



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	Claude AUGER
Serial no.	:	10/748,932
Filed	:	December 30, 2003
For	:	METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REDUCING DAMAGE TO A CIRCULAR SAW BLADE ON A DELIMBING MACHINE
Group Art Unit	:	3724
Examiner	:	Carolyn T. Blake
Docket	:	THOLAM P221US

The Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action mailed December 2, 2004, please enter the following preliminary amendment and the accompanying request for continued examination before reconsideration of this application.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1, 3 and 7, without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein and amend claims 4 shown by underlining and/or the claims deletions are shown by strikeout. Please enter the amended claims into the record of this case.